

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A radio terminal having a locking function, comprising:  
5 a photographing unit for capturing a user image to generate a pattern image of the user image;  
10 a memory for storing the pattern image of the user image; and  
15 a controlling unit for comparing the pattern image of the user image from the photographing unit with a pattern information of a reference user image stored in the memory, wherein the controlling unit cancels the locked state of the radio terminal, if the pattern information of the reference user image is the same as the pattern image of the user image.

2. A radio terminal having a locking function according to claim 1, wherein  
15 said controlling unit maintains the locked state of the radio terminal, if the pattern information of the reference user image is not the same as the pattern image of the user image.

3. A method for locking and unlocking a radio terminal, which includes a photographing unit for capturing a user image and a memory for storing a pattern image of the user image captured by the photographing unit, the method comprising:  
20 capturing the user image by the photographing unit, if the radio terminal is powered ON;  
25 comparing a pattern image of the user image, captured by the photographing unit, with a pattern information of a reference user image stored in the memory; and  
canceling the locked state of the radio terminal, if the pattern information of the captured user image is the same as the pattern information of the stored reference user image.

4. A method for locking and unlocking a radio terminal according to claim 3,  
30 wherein the memory pre-stores the pattern image of the user image captured by the photographing unit.

5. A method for locking and unlocking a radio terminal according to claim 4, further comprising maintaining the locked state of the radio terminal, if the pattern image of the captured user image is not the same as the pattern information of the stored reference user image.

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6. A method for locking and unlocking a radio terminal according to claim 3, further comprising updating the pattern image of the captured user image.

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7. A method for locking and unlocking a radio terminal having a photographing unit and a memory, comprising:

capturing a reference image by utilizing the photographing unit;  
storing the reference image in the memory;  
upon powering ON the terminal, utilizing the photographing unit to capture an input user image;

15 comparing the reference image to the input user image;  
maintaining a locked state of the terminal, if the reference image and the input user image are not the same; and  
canceling the locked state of the terminal, if the reference image and the input user image are the same.

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